

09/698,379MS150499.01/MSFTP151US**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claim 20 has been amended herein.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A system that creates and maintains an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:
 - at least one database holding information with respect to items, the information is at least one of an offer type, a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type;
 - an item list database that stores references to the items stored in the at least one database;
 - and
 - an interface component that receives a request for items in an item list, accesses the item list database for the references to the items, extracts data corresponding to the at least one database based on the references and returns the requested item list.
2. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, the interface component joins items from the at least one database and degrades the joined items as records are removed from any of the at least one database.
3. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a custom input component that allows a user to add a custom element to the item list, the custom element not residing in any of the at least one database.
4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 3, further comprising a user interface component that receives data related to the custom element from a user, the data comprises at least one of structured and unstructured data.

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5. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a remote input component that allows a user to add an item to the item list, the item is a description that resides on a remote merchant's site, and the remote merchant site employs a link to the remote input component that invokes the remote input component.
6. (Previously presented) The system of claim 5, the remote input component adds the description of the item to the item list, the description includes one of structured and unstructured data.
7. (Previously presented) The system of claim 5, the description is linked to information associated with an item in the at least one database and the remote input component adds the linked information to the item list.
8. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a component that links an infrastructure of the item list system to a remote site wherein the item list system appears to reside on the remote site.
9. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, the interface component comprises a plurality of ASP pages.
10. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising at least one HTML page that allows a user to select items from an electronic web-site to add to the item list and at least one element that provides a link from a selected item to the interface component, the interface component adds the selected item to the item list.
11. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a gift finder component that is associated with the item list, the gift finder component accesses a user attribute database to retrieve attributes related to an owner of at least one item list, the gift finder component employs the retrieved attributes to extract data from the at least one database and returns at least one item based on the retrieved attributes.

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12. (Previously presented) A system that creates and maintains an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:

at least one database that stores information with respect to items; and

an interface component that receives a request for items in an item list, accesses the items from the at least one database and returns the requested item list, the interface component joins items from the at least one database and degrades the joined items as records are removed from any of the at least one database.

13. (Previously presented) The system of claim 12, the items include data from at least two of an offer type, a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type, the interface component degrades the joined items by providing the best information from data available in the at least two of a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type.

14. (Previously presented) A system that creates and maintains an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:

at least one database with item information; and

an interface component that receives a request for items in an item list, accesses the items from the at least one database and returns the requested item list, the item information comprises structured and unstructured data.

15. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, further comprising a custom input component that allows a user to add a custom element to the item list, the custom element component comprises structured and unstructured data.

16. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, further comprising a user interface component that receives data related to a custom element from a user, the data comprises at least one of structured and unstructured data.

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17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, further comprising a remote input component that allows a user to add an item to the item list having a description residing on a remote merchant's site, the remote merchant site employs a link to the remote input component to invoke the remote input component.

18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, the remote input component adds the description of the item to the item list, the description includes one of structured and unstructured data.

19. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, the description is linked to information associated with an item in the at least one database and the remote input component adds the information with respect to the item to the item list.

20. (Currently amended) A system that creates and maintains an electronic item list for items residing at different merchant sites on the Internet comprising:

at least one database that holds item information with respect to items associated with items residing at different merchant sites; and

an interface component that receives a request for a list of items in an item list at a remote merchant site, accesses the items information from the at least one database, filters the item information to remove items that do not reside at the remote merchant's site, and displays returns the requested the filtered item list to a user, the system links the infrastructure of the item list system to a remote site and the item list system appears to reside on the remote site.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 20, the interface component accesses and returns only items related to the remote site.

22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21, the interface component accesses and returns only items related to the remote site based on an ID associated with the items.

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23. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21, the interface component accesses and returns only items related to the remote site by accessing and returning items on a separate list associated with items related to the remote site.

24. (Previously presented) A system that creates and maintains an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:

at least one database with saved information with respect to items,

an interface component that receives a request for items in an item list, accesses the items from the at least one database and returns the requested item list;

a customization component that adds at least one custom item to the item list, the at least one custom item does not reside in any of the at least one database; and

a gift finder component that accesses a user attribute database and retrieves attributes related to an owner of the item list, the gift finder component employs the retrieved attributes to extract data from the at least one database and returns at least one item of interest based on the retrieved attributes.

25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24, the item list comprises a link associated with the gift finder component that invokes the gift finder component from the item list.

26. (Previously presented) A method that provides an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:

providing at least one database that stores information with respect to items, the information is at least one of an offer type, a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type;

providing an item list database that stores references to the items stored in the at least one database;

receiving a request from a requestor for items in an item list;

accessing the item list database for the references to the items;

extracting data that corresponds to the at least one database employing the references; and

returning the requested item list to the requestor.

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27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising joining the extracted data and degrading the joined items as records are removed from any of the at least one database.
28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising joining structured and unstructured data.
29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising inputting custom items into the item list database.
30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising providing a link and a product description at a remote merchant site that allows a user to add items from a remote site to the item list database.
31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising linking the infrastructure of the item list to a remote site, the item list appears to reside on the remote site.
32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising providing links from selectable items on at least one HTML page, the links allow a user to select items from an electronic web-site to add to the item list.
33. (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that perform the steps of claim 26.

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34. (Previously presented) A method that provides an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising the steps of:

providing at least one database that holds information with respect to items, the information is at least one of an offer type, a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type;

providing a user attribute database that stores attributes with respect to an owner of the item list;

receiving a request from a requestor for possible gift items;

accessing the user attribute database for the attributes of the owner of the item list;

extracting data that corresponds to the at least one database based on the attributes;

degrading the extracted data as records are removed from any of the at least one database; and

returning the requested possible gift items to the requestor.

35. (Previously presented) A system that creates and maintains an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:

means for storing information with respect to items, the information is at least one of an offer type, a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type;

means for storing references to the items stored in the at least one database;

means for extracting data corresponding to the at least one database employing the stored references.

36. (Original) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for joining the extracted data and means for degrading the extracted data as records are removed from any of the at least one database.

37. (Original) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for providing custom input elements to the item list.

38. (Original) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for allowing a user to add an item residing on a remote merchant's site to the item list.

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39. (Original) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for linking the infrastructure of the item list system to a remote site wherein the item list system appears to reside on the remote site.

40. (Previously presented) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for providing gift suggestions to a receiver of an item list, the receiver employs attributes that reside in a user attribute database and means for extracting data from the at least one database based on the attributes.